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February 22, 1983

The Honorable Edwin Martinez
Governor, Pueblo of Laguna
P. O. Box 194
Old Laguna, New Mexico 87026

*The original
full copy should
be Gov's office*

Dear Governor Martinez:

Governor Early's letter dated December 3, 1982 expressed concerns of the Pueblo of Laguna regarding reclamation issues which have not been resolved through discussions of the Technical Committee.

Our Reclamation Plan was submitted to the Bureau of Land Management in March 1982. Often referred to as the Green Book Reclamation Plan, its general objectives are to return the mine lease area to a non-mineral land use, to meet basic safety standards, to protect natural resources, and where necessary, to stabilize dump slopes and pit walls against massive slope failure and uncontrolled erosion which might jeopardize the safety and well-being of people and animals within the area. This plan was the result of the combined efforts of Anaconda, numerous technical consultants, and various government agencies. It is our belief that this plan, as submitted, fully accomplishes the objectives stated above. In addition, the plan is a statement of Anaconda's commitment to do what is proper, and goes far beyond measures required by the terms of our former leases and applicable regulations.

On December 10, 1982, we requested clarification of certain issues cited in Governor Early's letter. Although we have received no answer to date, we are responding to your concerns as we understand them. Our purpose is to expedite this matter.

In the attached appendix, we supply our response on each of the issues raised in Governor Early's letter. While all of the issues raised have been addressed in the Reclamation Plan, you will note that there are various issues we are willing to discuss further as potential amendments to the Plan. Any amendments agreed to in negotiations between the Pueblo and Anaconda would require BLM approval. Furthermore, Anaconda's final agreement to any amendments is contingent on unconditional acceptance of those portions of the plan unaffected by any such amendments.